

AMENDED VERSION**IN THE CLAIMS:**

C₁ 712. (Twice Amended) The mat of claim 11, wherein said cartridge top is a single, disposable sealed system.

8 16. (Twice Amended) A method of protecting a restroom surface from spillage of urine by placing said mat of claim 11 on the surface in need of protection.

C₂ Sub 17. (Amended) A urinal or commode mat for protecting a restroom surface from spillage of liquids, said mat comprising:

a cartridge unit including

(a) moisture absorbing means for absorbing and retaining liquid,

(b) a rigid cartridge top disposed over and connected to said moisture absorbing means for collecting and draining liquid onto said moisture absorbing means, and

(c) barrier means disposed beneath and connected to said moisture absorbing means for preventing moisture escape from said moisture absorbing means; and

a base unit having a rim portion, said cartridge top of said

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cartridge unit including a rigid edge portion for containing and engaging said rim portion to maintain said cartridge unit within said base unit.

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